

1998 Tornado Fatalities

In 1998, 1,425 tornadoes were recorded; 277 more than in 1997. Tornadoes resulted in 130 fatalities, a 94% increase over last year's total, 67. The 30-year average is 69 tornado deaths per year. On February 22, tornadoes claimed 42 lives and caused 254 injuries in north-central and northeast Florida. On March 20, a tornado killed 12 and injured 171 people in north-central Georgia. On April 8, an F5 (wind speeds 261-318 mph) tornado in north-central Alabama claimed 34 lives and caused 270 injuries. Another 14 fatalities occurred on April 16 when tornadoes moved through Arkansas, Tennessee, Kentucky and Virginia. On May 30, an F4 (wind speeds 207-260 mph) tornado killed 6 and injured 150 people as it destroyed much of the town of Spencer, SD. Of the 130 fatalities, 64 were in mobile homes and 46 were in permanent homes. The number of men vs. women killed by tornadoes was almost even: 68 men and 62 women.

1998 TORNADO FATALITIES BY STATE AND LOCATION

<u>STATE</u>	<u>BU</u>	<u>LS</u>	<u>MH</u>	<u>OT</u>	<u>OU</u>	<u>PH</u>	<u>SC</u>	<u>VE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
AL	0	0	5	0	0	29	0	0	34
AR	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
FL	0	0	29	0	0	1	0	12	42
GA	1	0	16	0	0	1	0	1	19
KY	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	3
LA	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
MN	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	3
NC	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	2
OH	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
PA	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	3
SC	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	3
SD	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	6
TN	0	0	4	0	1	2	0	0	7
TX	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
VA	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2
TOTAL	1	0	64	0	3	46	0	16	130
PERCENT	1	0	49	0	2	35	0	12	99*

(* Due to rounding total does not equal 100%)

1998 TORNADO FATALITIES BY AGE AND GENDER

	<u>FEMALE</u>	<u>MALE</u>	<u>UNKNOWN</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>PERCENT</u>
0 TO 9	2	10	0	12	9
10 TO 19	5	0	0	5	4
20 TO 29	3	7	0	10	8
30 TO 39	12	10	0	22	17
40 TO 49	8	11	0	19	15
50 TO 59	3	11	0	14	11
60 TO 69	10	5	0	15	12
70 TO 79	12	9	0	21	16
80 TO 89	5	5	0	10	8
90 TO --	2	0	0	2	2
UNKNOWN	0	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	62	68	0	130	102*
PERCENT	48	52	0	100	

(* Due to rounding total does not equal 100%)

LEGEND

BU - Business
LS - Long-Span Roof
MH - Mobile Home
OT - Other/Unknown
OU - Outside Open
PH - Permanent Home
SC - School
VE - Vehicle